

From: Martin, Charles
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2006 11:57 AM
To: Daub, Eleanore
Cc: Schneider, Jutta
Subject: FW: UAA
FYI

Charles Martin
Watershed Programs Section
Office of Water Quality Programs
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

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-----Original Message-----

From: Leonard A Smock/FS/VCU [<mailto:lsmock@vcu.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2006 5:15 PM
To: Martin, Charles
Subject: UAA

Charles:

I read over the document. It is difficult for me to determine the likelihood of the UAA changing the use designation since there really isn't much information specific to the stream other than in very general terms. I also am not sure of the exact nature of the watershed characteristics relevant to the stream, for example when they note that hundreds (or was it thousands) of buildings would be impacted by remediation, are all of those buildings in the riparian zone or simply in the watershed? Also, I do not necessarily believe that just because a stream is degraded by past activities, which preclude certain activities, that it should not be remediated. This document does make somewhat of a case that a UAA would be useful to better determine if the designated use might be altered, but without more on site, specific information, I can not make a call as to whether or not there is sufficient evidence to allow the UAA to be conducted.

"Martin, Charles" <chmartin@deq.virginia.gov>

10/11/2006 09:20 AM

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Subject

Earlier this year, EPA approved a TMDL report for Straight Creek (Lee County) that identified excessive sedimentation and total dissolved solids as the pollutants responsible for the degradation and impairment of the benthic community in the stream. DEQ has recently received a proposal from the Virginia Coalfields TMDL Group to conduct a Use Attainability Analysis on Straight Creek.

In order to help determine if there are reasonable grounds indicating that the attainment of the aquatic life use in Straight Creek is not feasible, we are now seeking public comment on the documentation provided by the Group. We especially would like to hear from you as members of Virginia's TMDL Ad Hoc Group. A public notice was issued on October 6th, with the comment period extending through November 9th, 2006. Both the public notice and the supporting documentation are attached for your convenience.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the number below or DEQ's water quality standards coordinator Eleanore Daub at (804) 698-4111.

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